



July 17, 2009

To: Libby City Council

From: Rebecca Thomas
EPA Project Manager

Subject: Libby Asbestos Superfund Site
Export Plant property

On June 2, 2009, I sent some information to Libby City Council in response to questions posed by City Councilman DC Orr. In subsequent correspondence, Mr. Orr provided more detail about his questions and requested an additional response. The purpose of this message is to respond to Mr. Orr's detailed questions.

- 1) Councilman Orr provided comments on the draft Remedial Investigation (RI) report, specifically on Sections 1.2.2 Historic Use and 1.2.3 Current Use.

Section 1.2.2 of the report has been modified to include additional information on historic use of the property.

Section 1.2.3 of the report has been modified to read, "While access to Area 1 is unrestricted, EPA has provided guidance to the city regarding the use of caution when conducting any activities at the site that disturb soil." This statement is consistent with the information I provided to City Council in my correspondence dated June 2, 2009.

- 2) Councilman Orr questioned whether the appearance of visible vermiculite on the ground surface on portions of Area 1 represents a compromise to the integrity of previous response actions. EPA is aware of the visible vermiculite at the Export Plant property. As stated in my earlier correspondence, EPA is working toward selection of a final remedy for the Export Plant which can provide certainty with respect to protectiveness of human health. Any remedy selected by EPA will break exposure pathways between asbestos contamination and people to ensure that the remedy is protective.
- 3) Councilman Orr asked about the scope of Activity Based Sampling (ABS) at the Export Plant. ABS was limited to a few samples collected during brush hogging activity.
- 4) Councilman Orr continues to question status of the infrastructure at the Export Plant property. Under separate cover, I have provided all of the correspondence that EPA has reviewed concerning this issue. EPA would welcome the opportunity to consider any additional information you may have.